

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Nappier et al. Attorney Docket No. BO1-0112US  
(formerly BING-1-1045)  
Serial No.: 10/717,940 Group Art Unit: 3722  
Filing Date: November 20, 2003 Examiner: Howell, Daniel W.  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR THRUST SENSING VALVES

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2006**

To: Commissioner for Patents  
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**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated February 9, 2006. Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this document.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 5 of this document.

**Remarks** begin on page 14 of this document.